



## Reducing the environmental health risk of the vulnerable group in a developing country: A case study of metropolitan Lagos

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### Abstract:

The household, workplace, outdoor and transportation environments pose risks to health in a number of different ways, from the poor quality of the air many people breathe to the hazards we face as a result of climate change. This problem is exacerbated by the high population growth rate of Metropolitan Lagos. This puts a lot of pressure on existing infrastructural and social services which further degrade the environment. Unfortunately, the poor are the most vulnerable to these health and environmental hazards. This paper focused on the social and environmental health risk factors associated with vulnerable groups in Metropolitan Lagos. Specifically, this paper reports how these factors affect the health conditions of these groups of people. Metropolitan Lagos is stratified into various neighbourhoods according to income level and density. Three low income/high density areas were selected for study. The direct observation, administration of questionnaire and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) methods of data collection were employed in addition to the use of secondary based facility data. Information were sought on environmental risk variables like the quality of water, sanitary conditions, refuse disposal types, drainage conditions, sources and intensity of air pollution and sources of energy for cooking. These variables were correlated against health indexes like morbidity and mortality. Results show a strong association between environmental factors and the health status of people especially the poor in the study area.

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### Resource Description

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Food/Water Quality

**Food/Water Quality:** Pathogen

#### Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

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## Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Africa

**African Region/Country:** African Country

**Other African Country:** Nigeria

## Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Morbidity/Mortality, Respiratory Effect

**Infectious Disease:** Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease

**Foodborne/Waterborne Disease:** Cholera, Other Diarrheal Disease

**Vectorborne Disease:** Mosquito-borne Disease

**Mosquito-borne Disease:** Malaria

**Respiratory Effect:** Other Respiratory Effect

**Respiratory Condition (other) :** Acute respiratory infection

## Intervention:

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

## Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

## Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

## Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

## **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

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